

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
CULTURE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:168

ANSWERED ON:25.04.2016

Relic Casket of Lalitgiri

Panda Shri Baijayant "Jay"

Will the Minister of CULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has received a request from the Government of Odisha to temporarily store the relic caskets found from Lalitgiri in the Odisha State Museum and subsequently permanently at a structure that may be build at Lalitgiri;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Government has accepted these requests and if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) if not, the reasons therefor?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE, CULTURE AND TOURISM (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) AND MINISTER OF STATE, CIVIL AVIATION

(Dr. MAHESH SHARMA)

(a) to (d) Yes, Madam. The Government of Odisha had requested for loaning of sacred Buddhist Relics recovered from excavated site Lalitgiri.

Local people of Lalitgiri also demanded to construct a museum building at Lalitgiri to display the associated antiquities.

At present the construction work is in progress by CPWD.